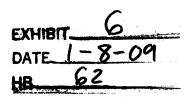
Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board,

My name is Jacob Ticknor, and I am 11 years old.



This year I will have to take Hunters Safety before I can hunt. I think that it is right that I will have to take Hunters Safety because when you hunt, you use a gun, and that could kill another person if you are not careful. Trapping is not the same. There are not very many trappers, and the traps would not kill a person anyway.

I have been to the Youth Trapping Camp 3 times, and I have been trapping for 4 years. Even though I would not have to take the class, I don't think that my little brothers should have to take it. They will have been trapping with our big brothers and dad for years before they turn 12, and they will have learned a lot more doing that than in a class. We set traps to harvest animals so that there are not too many of them, just like hunting helps to keep a healthy amount of animals. I think that lots of people do not understand what having too many of these animals will do to the forest.

I think that there are people that don't like trapping, and just because they don't like it, they think that no-one should be able to do it. That is wrong. Just because I don't like it when dogs scare my little sisters when we are hiking, that doesn't mean that I think they should not be able to take their dogs in the woods with them. Last fall my brother and dad even had to pull their pistols on a dog that was threatening one of my sisters before the owner would call it off.

Laws are supposed to help people to stay free. This law only makes it harder for trappers to be able to trap because maybe some people can't come to a Trapping Education class and then they couldn't trap. That is what some people want; to make it harder for trappers. That is wrong.

Please vote NO to House Bill 62.

Thank you,

Jacob Ticknor
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